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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/775,109	01/31/2001	Susan M. Janz	10003904-1	6315

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HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY
Intellectual Property Administration
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EXAMINER

KINDRED, ALFORD W

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2163

DATE MAILED: 04/07/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/775,109

Applicant(s)

JANZ ET AL.

Examiner

Alford W. Kindred

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 March 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-8 and 10-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 4, 6-8, 11, 13-15, 17, and 19-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3,5,10,12,16,18 and 20 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Response to RCE filed 12/27/04.

--Claims 1, 3-8, and 10-20 are presented for examination.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 3, 5, 10, 12, 16, and 18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims and overcome the 101 rejection of independent claim1.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1, 4, and 6-8, 11, 13-15, 17, and 19-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hoffberg et al., US 2002/0151992 A1, in view of Wade et al., US 5,552,776.

As per claims 1, 4 and 6, Hoffberg et al. teaches "reading, from an input record, a record unique device identification . . ." (see paragraph [0973]) "searching an index for an enduring unique device . . ." (see paragraphs [1041]-[1293]) "updating the index with the recorded device data" (see paragraph [1293]). Hoffberg et al. does not explicitly

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teach “to uniquely identify a device and recorded device usage data.” Wade et al. teaches “to uniquely identify a device and recorded device usage data” (see column 2, lines 30-52). It would have been obvious at the time of the invention for one of ordinary skill in the art to have combined the teachings of Hoffberg and Wade above, because using the steps of “to uniquely identify a device and recorded device usage data”, would have given those skilled in the art the ability to explicitly identify various devices and for the recording usage data of those devices. This gives users the advantage of recording device usage data in a more expedited manner.

As per claims 5 and 7, these claim are rejected on grounds corresponding to the arguments given above for rejected claim 1 and are similarly rejected including the following:

-- Hoffberg et al. teaches “updating enduring device data from an enduring record in the index . . . unique device identification” (see paragraphs [1041] and [1293]).

As per claims 8, 11 and 13-14, these claims are rejected on grounds corresponding to the arguments given above for rejected claims 1, and 4 and 6-7 and are similarly rejected.

As per claims 15, 17, and 19-20, these claims are rejected on grounds corresponding to the arguments given above for rejected claims 1, 3 and 6-7 and are similarly rejected.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 4, and 6-8, 11, 13-15, 17, and 19-20, have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

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Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alford W. Kindred whose telephone number is 571-272-4037. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 9:00 am- 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Safet Metjahic can be reached on (571) 272-4023. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Alford W. Kindred
Patent Examiner
Tech Ctr. 2100